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U. S. Department of Agriculture

Housekeepers' Chat

Thursday, May 22, 1930

Not for Publication.

Subject: "Helps in House Planning." Talk prepared by Mary Rokahr, Extension Economist in Home Management, U. S. D. A.

Bulletins available: "Convenient Kitchens" and "Floors and Floor Coverings."

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The other day I took a batch of questions over to the Bureau of Home Economics. There was a question about curtains, for the Curtain Specialist to answer; a request for Fruit Punch, which the Recipe Lady is working on; and a complicated question about house plans.

The third question, about planning a home, I took to Miss Mary Rokahr, Extension Economist in Home Management.

"Do you have time," I asked, "to write a letter to this radio friend, and tell her something about house plans?"

Miss Rokahr read the letter. She was much interested.

"I'll answer this letter," said Miss Rokahr, "by sending your Mrs. Homemaker a copy of a talk I made recently, on this very subject."

"What?" I asked. "You made a talk on 'House Plans' and I didn't know about it? Please, Miss Rokahr, let me broadcast your talk."

Miss Rokahr was willing, and so this morning I'm going to broadcast a special radio talk, by the national Extension Economist in Home Management.

"Helps in House Planning" is the title:

"There are many kinds of home plans," says Miss Rokahr. "Some have to do with the construction of the house itself and its furnishings, and others with the wise use of time and money. Home plans always seem to me to be the finest kind of plans. We get so much pleasure and satisfaction from them. Plans, like dreams, come true if we keep pegging away at them. They may not all come true this year or next, and that is why our plans should be simple ones that grow from year to year. Some of us will use this year, only the materials we have on hand to make our homes most attractive, but next year we may have the new water system, or the remodelled kitchen we have been dreaming about. You will agree with me, I am sure, that we accomplish more with a plan.

"There are many questions we might ask ourselves about our homes, as the first step in planning to make them more comfortable and more beautiful. For instance, beginning with the living room, the center of family life, and therefore the most restful, attractive room in the house. Is there plenty

1. The first part of the paper is devoted to the study of the

properties of the function

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{a_n}{n!} x^n$$

where  $a_n$  are the coefficients of the power series.

2. The second part of the paper is devoted to the study of the

properties of the function  $f(x)$  in the case when the coefficients  $a_n$  are given by the recurrence relation

$$a_{n+1} = \frac{a_n}{n+1} + \frac{a_{n-1}}{n}$$

with the initial conditions  $a_0 = 1$  and  $a_1 = 0$ .

3. The third part of the paper is devoted to the study of the

properties of the function  $f(x)$  in the case when the coefficients  $a_n$  are given by the recurrence relation

$$a_{n+1} = \frac{a_n}{n+1} + \frac{a_{n-1}}{n} + \frac{a_{n-2}}{n-1}$$

with the initial conditions  $a_0 = 1$ ,  $a_1 = 0$  and  $a_2 = 0$ .

4. The fourth part of the paper is devoted to the study of the

properties of the function  $f(x)$  in the case when the coefficients  $a_n$  are given by the recurrence relation

$$a_{n+1} = \frac{a_n}{n+1} + \frac{a_{n-1}}{n} + \frac{a_{n-2}}{n-1} + \frac{a_{n-3}}{n-2}$$

with the initial conditions  $a_0 = 1$ ,  $a_1 = 0$ ,  $a_2 = 0$  and  $a_3 = 0$ .

5. The fifth part of the paper is devoted to the study of the

properties of the function  $f(x)$  in the case when the coefficients  $a_n$  are given by the recurrence relation

$$a_{n+1} = \frac{a_n}{n+1} + \frac{a_{n-1}}{n} + \frac{a_{n-2}}{n-1} + \frac{a_{n-3}}{n-2} + \frac{a_{n-4}}{n-3}$$

of sunshine and fresh air? Good light where it is needed? Do you have a restful, cheerful color scheme? Has the furniture been chosen to provide comfort, convenience, and pleasure for all the family? Are there comfortable places to read? Is there a place for writing a letter, visiting with friends, playing a quiet game, or enjoying a family musical hour? Is there sufficient storage space for the equipment and supplies needed in the living room, and some place for the children to study? Are there enough, but not too many, accessories, such as pictures, flower bowls, candlesticks and pillows, and are all of these articles arranged in good taste?

"As I have been asking these questions, no doubt you have been answering them in your own mind -- yes or no. If the answer to some of the questions has been no, then the next step in our planning is to see what we can do about it. Perhaps a storage space for the children's toys or games might be put in some empty corner. The furniture may be moved about to provide the centers suggested; pictures may be rehung level with the eye, or maybe a few discarded. For summer, a new hooked, grass, or rag rug, or breezy cool curtains might be selected to replace the winter rugs and draperies.

"Don't forget to think of the comfort of the men folks who come in dead tired, at noon or in the evening, and want to lie down for a few minutes rest. See that the couch is in a place where comfort may be spelled with a capital C for the person who needs and uses it most. If you think Dad's favorite chair is a disgrace to the living room, don't throw it out; make a new slip cover for it.

"And what about the bed room? What does it need most this spring? Paint and stain go a long way toward doing over the furniture, floors and woodwork. Perhaps a coat of paint will fill the bill here. In Farmers' Bulletin 1219, Floors and Floor Coverings, you will find some helpful suggestions.

"While we are on the subject of bedroom planning, does your daughter know about 4-H clubs directed by the Extension Agent in your county? Every year thousands of girls in the United States report making their own rooms more attractive through club work.

"And now let us turn to the room that is near and dear to the heart of every home maker, -- perhaps because of the number of hours she spends in it -- the kitchen. Your home planning this year may mean rearranging your kitchen, or it may mean purchasing only a new, bright colored utensil or two. Whichever it is, send for Farmers' Bulletin, 1513, Convenient Kitchens. You can't afford to start any job of rearranging your kitchen without the help of this bulletin.

"And so on, we might go through the house, with one suggestion here, and another one there. If there is a home demonstration agent in your county, she will be glad to help you solve problems that arise in rearranging your house. I am assuming, you see, that those of you who plan extensive remodeling, or the building and furnishing of an entirely new house, will turn to books and to architects for expert advice.





R-H.C. 5/22

"If the bulletins I mentioned would be useful in your house planning this year, write to Aunt Sammy for them: "Convenient Kitchens" and "Floors and Floor Coverings."

"Now," concludes Miss Rokahr, "let me wish you the best of success in your home plans for this spring."

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That's all of Miss Rokahr's talk -- I'm sure that all of us found helpful suggestions in it.

Tomorrow, please be prepared to write two recipes -- for there are two very good ones on our bill of fare..

Friday: "Stuffed Flank Steak for Saturday Night Supper."

